

Liberty House gets \$50K grant

Liberty House has been awarded a \$50,000 Community Partnership Grant from Salem Health.

Grant funds will support medical evaluations for children in Polk County referred for concerns of abuse or neglect. Liberty House will use the funds to make these medical assessments available in Polk County, making it easier for children to get the specialized, life-saving help they need in a location that is closer to home.

Currently, to be seen at Liberty House, children from Polk County must travel to Salem. The time and distance involved create significant barriers for the children and their families. The grant will meet a critical, top-priority need.

"We are deeply grateful for this incredibly generous grant from Salem Health. This is an investment in children that will save lives and help children get specialized, critical medical assessment when they need it," said Allison Kelley, Liberty House CEO.

Liberty House is a community assessment center (ORS 418.782) and provides

medical assessment, interviewing, counseling and support for children referred for concerns of abuse, neglect, trauma or grief, serving over 600 children and families each year from Marion and Polk counties. Liberty House offers a child-friendly environment that allows chil-

dren to be seen by a provider with expertise in child abuse, and to feel safe during the process of answering questions from investigators who are responding to concerns of abuse. Liberty House is located just south of Keizer in Salem.

obituaries

Submit an obituary through our website at keizertimes.com or send an email to: editor@keizertimes.com

Leona Fay Schroeder Cole

October 17, 1936 - January 10, 2018

Leona Fay Schroeder Cole was born Oct. 17, 1936 in O'Neill, Neb., to William "Bill" Schroeder and Letha Violet Patterson. She passed away at her home in Keizer on Jan. 10, 2018.

Leona was married for 37 years to Thomas Spencer Cole, Sr., who preceded her in death.

She loved reading, puzzles and, above all else,

Leona is survived by her daughter, Carla Spencer and her children Travis and Jenny; daughter, Jeanette Michaelson

and children Christopher and Jamie; Mary (Bill) Sughroue and children Casey and Samuel; Thomas Jr. (Karen) Cole and children Sarah and Ashley; Henry Cole and son, Sean; daughter, Patricia Cole along with many great, great grandchildren.

Leona was preceded in death by her parents and sons-in-law Hugh Spencer and Rodney Michaelson.

In keeping with Leona's wishes, no public services will be held. Assisting is Virgil T. Golden Funeral Service.



L. Schroeder



KEIZERTIMES/Eric A. Howald

K9 Officer Kobe was introduced to the Keizer City Council at a meeting Tuesday, Jan. 16. Kobe is filling the role left vacant with the sudden death of another K9 officer last year.

KPD gets new K9 officer

By ERIC A. HOWALD
Of the Keizertimes

The Keizer Police Department has a new K9 officer to replace Bruno who died suddenly of an infection in October 2017.

Kobe, a black German shepherd from Czechoslovakia, was introduced to the Keizer City Council at its meeting Tuesday, Jan. 16. Keizer K9 officers are expensive and purchased with private donations to the department.

Kobe is a tracking dog, not a drug dog, and was purchased from Adlerhorst Kennels in Riverside, Calif., in November 2017.

In addition to the training Kobe received in Czechoslovakia, he and his handler, Officer Scott Keniston, attended a month-long K9 training academy in Albany.

Keniston, who was Bruno's partner, is an experienced han-

dlers so most of that training was to apprise him of Kobe's skills and subtleties and to refine their communication during tracking and trailing, building searches, area searches, discarded article searches, apprehension, handler protection, and other dynamic and potentially dangerous activities.

Kobe is now certified through the Oregon Police Canine Association and began working Keizer's streets in December. Kobe's first deployment ended with him finding and apprehending a wanted felon who fled from officers.

In Kobe's introduction before to the Keizer City Council, Deputy Chief Jeff Kuhns

paid special thanks to Keniston's wife and two sons, who were also in attendance, for their role in supporting the K9 unit.

"Taking on the responsibility takes the whole family,"

Kuhns said. "These dogs aren't kenneled at the department, they go home with the officer and become a part of the family."

Along with presenting police service dog Kobe, the department honored the late, retired U.S. Marine Corps Master Gunner Sergeant Lou Nordyke and his late wife, Nancy. The Nordykes were longtime friends of the police department and generous donors to the K9 program.

"They... become a part of the family."

— Jeff Kuhns
Deputy Police Chief

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